



**Fairfax County Police Department
Franconia District Station**

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www.fairfaxcounty.gov/police/stations/franconia

Bulletin 15, Date Released 11/24/10

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Information Bulletin: Shoulder Tap

Shoulder Tap Operation

On Friday, November 19, 2010, officers from the Franconia District Station Selective Enforcement Team (SET), along with a member of the Traffic Safety Services Unit, conducted a “Shoulder Tap” at several locations in the Franconia area of the county. This undercover operation was conducted using one team, consisting of two cadets, two plainclothes officers and two uniformed officers serving as a security team. As a result of this operation, 35 adults were approached. Four arrests were made for illegal purchase of alcohol at the following locations:

Express Mini Mart	6691-G Backlick Road	5 Approached	2 Arrested
7-Eleven Store	6225 Backlick Road	30 Approached	2 Arrested

The “Shoulder Tap” operation is part of the ongoing Youth Alcohol/Business Compliance enforcement campaign, managed by the Traffic Safety Division. Fairfax County police cadets, who are all under 21 years of age, dress in plainclothes and portray underage drinkers who rely on willing adults to purchase alcohol for them. Purchasing alcohol for someone under 21 years of age is a violation of Virginia State Code 4.1-306.

The targeted locations of enforcement for Shoulder Tap operations are parking lots of businesses that possess state ABC licenses to sell alcoholic beverages. The cadets

are advised to approach adults in the parking lots and ask them to purchase alcohol for them. If asked by the adult if they are 21, the cadets are told to respond with their true age. If the illegal purchase of alcohol takes place, a plainclothes officer watching the transaction intervenes and appropriate charges are placed.

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To request this information in an alternate format, call the Franconia District Station at 703.922.0889. TTY 703-204-2264